

DEC 24 2003

**REQUEST
for
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/941,692

Filing Date August 30, 2001

First Named Inventor Yotaro HATAMURA

Group Art Unit 1763

Examiner Name Allan W. Olsen

Attorney Docket Number 2001_1227

Confirmation No. 7051

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted:

- i. ☐ Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other

b. ☒ Enclosed:

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).

b. ☐ Other

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.

- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$56.00 enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.

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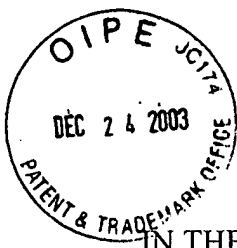
December 24, 2003

12/29/2003 HVUONG1 00000128 09941692

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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **ATTN: BOX RCE**
Yotaro HATAMURA et al. : Docket No. 2001_1227
Serial No. 09/941,692 : Group Art Unit 1763
Filed August 30, 2001 : Examiner A. Olsen
SUBSTRATE WITH MICRO-PROTRUSIONS : **Confirmation No. 7051**
AND METHOD OF MAKING THEREOF

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2003, having a three (3) month shortened-statutory period for response set to expire December 24, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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